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STATINTL

March 27, 1958

Reverend William Sloane Coffin *card*  
Chaplain of Yale University  
Yale University  
New Haven, Connecticut

Dear Rev. Coffin:

I have just received word of your recent appointment as Chaplain of Yale University, and would like to take this opportunity to wish you every success in the years that lie ahead.

With my kindest regards.

Sincerely,

**SECRET**  
Allen W. Dulles  
Director

O/DCI/[ ]/dd/27 Mar 58

Rewritten:

AWD/at

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# The Williams Record

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## PhD Speed-up?

By Ben Schenck

Faculty reaction to a New York "Times" article decrying the present master's and doctoral degree programs in the nation's colleges and universities showed general agreement with the sentiment of the article, and presented several proposals for solving the problem.

The article, written by Benjamin Fine in the March 2 issue, said that one of the major reasons for the present growing shortage of school and college teachers lay in the inability or unwillingness of prospective teachers to spend the necessary time to procure a doctor of philosophy degree.

Fine referred to the annual report of the President of Smith College, Dr. Benjamin F. Wright, which reported that the work for a Ph. D. is not completed, in many cases, until ten to fifteen years after graduation from college.

### Emphasis on Research

Fine attributed to Wright, with other prominent educators, the complaint that "too much emphasis is placed upon the research or thesis side of the Ph. D." and that "the Ph. D. program is often too rigid and regimented".

Ralph Winch, Professor of Physics, stated that he did not think that the Ph. D., as a research degree, "should be tampered with". He suggested that an alternate degree should be established for persons who are primarily inter-

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Anson Piper, Associate Profes  
 tic Languages, agreed, "on the w  
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Piper felt that the present  
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Piper spent eight years, als  
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